

Conservative Arianna Huffington continued: "But that's exactly what congressional Republicans did in pushing through tax cut legislation last month, and that's what President Bush signed off on."

When hearing about the provision being pulled from the bill and the impact it would have on 1 in every 5 active duty military families, Republican Senator JOHN MCCAIN said, "My God, what kind of message are we sending when we leave out low-income families, exactly those who are in that category of the enlisted men and women who are fighting for us today in Iraq? It is beyond belief."

It truly is.

White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer probably explained it best when he said: "Does tax relief go to people who pay income taxes, or does it go above and beyond the forgiving of all income taxes, and you actually get a check from the government for more than you ever owed in income taxes?" That is what the House majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) is saying. He basically is backing up Fleischer's claims and he says, "To me, it is a little difficult to give tax relief to people who do not pay income tax."

Well, it is simply not true. These people do pay taxes. What the President's secretary and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) forget is that these workers pay Federal taxes. Madam Speaker, 7.65 percent of their earnings go to pay for Social Security and Medicare. These hardworking parents also pay State and local taxes as well.

But beyond the issue of whether they pay or not, and they do, it is just the issue of simple fairness. How can the Republicans say it is fair to give a millionaire a tax break of more than \$90,000 while giving nothing to millions of working families? I do not understand how they even could conceive of such a thing.

Now, after realizing that the Republicans had left this provision out of their final tax bill, several of my Democratic colleagues introduced a bill early this week that would repair the damage from this irresponsible tax package. The gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) has introduced legislation with many Democratic sponsors that would provide greater tax relief to the families of 19 million children, and the legislation is fully paid for, so it would not add to the record deficits created by the President and the Republicans in Congress.

Last week we Democrats in the House said we would not allow business to continue as usual around here until Republicans agreed to address the Rangel legislation. We did some procedural motions and we will continue to do that this week until the Republican House leadership stands up and says that they are going to pass this legislation.

I just do not understand where they are coming from. I do not understand

how they can be so crass and so really unfeeling about these low-income working families. Obviously everybody else here agrees: The President now today, the Democrats, and the Republicans in the other House. The only thing that is holding us up here on this is the House Republican leadership. They have to stop this attack on low- and middle-class families. They have to stop this attack, bring it to an end, pass this legislation. Let us bring it up and pass it immediately.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGE OF LYNDON STATION, WISCONSIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, this July the village of Lyndon Station, Wisconsin, in the heart of my congressional district, will be marking its centennial celebration. This beautiful, tranquil village lies in eastern Wisconsin and is surrounded by some of America's richest farmland. The village of Lyndon Station is a jewel in the crown of Juneau County. This community has been a primary contributor to the region's settlement, development of the timber industry, expansion of agriculture, and a hub of community trade and commercial growth for over 100 years.

The first settlers were native Americans who used the banks of what is now called Lyndon Creek to camp and hunt the abundant wildlife in the mixed prairie-woodland of this region. The first European settlement of the present village site was in 1849. Three brothers and two sisters of the Havey family arrived in this area to start a new life, having immigrated from Kildare, Ireland during the worst years of the potato famine. They settled near the present village location and were the beginning of a wave to discover the fertile soils of central Wisconsin.

Other settlers soon followed and established land claims in and near the growing village which became known as Kildare. In 1857, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad spurred new life into the area when it built a railroad station as it pushed its lines of commerce further west.

□ 1945

By 1870, the name Kildare Village was changed to Lyndon Station Village since the name Kildare was already being used for the township. There has been much speculation as to the origin of the name Lyndon, and it still remains a mystery; but such a mystery only adds to the community's charm. In 1903, Lyndon Station was officially incorporated as a village in the State of Wisconsin, even though the name had been on maps for nearly half a century.

The Lyndon Station Village Centennial celebrates the best of rural Amer-

ica. There are thousands of small rural communities across this Nation that form the backbone of rural life. These communities are the incubators of local politics, of commerce and education, recreation, entertainment, and faith for our rural neighborhoods.

Collectively, the hardworking citizens of small-town America are the builders of our great Nation. I am proud to congratulate the citizens of Lyndon Station Village on their 100th anniversary. I believe that it is important to recognize their unique contribution to the development of central Wisconsin and wish them happiness and prosperity during the next 100 years.

QUIBBLING ABOUT PAYMENTS TO IRAQIS IN NO-SHOW JOBS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, today the headline in The New York Times reads: "Iraqis are out of jobs, but payday still comes."

With the administration's and the President's blessings, 200,000 Iraqis, employees of the government ministries and government-owned companies, are being paid \$20 a day for no-show jobs. They do not work. They are getting paid \$20,000 a day by the American taxpayers. They do not work.

Let me read from the article. The story describes how "mechanics linger listlessly around machines that don't run; clerical employees wait for assignments that never come. Most don't even bother to show up at all, except on payday," to collect their \$20. There are 200,000 Iraqi people being paid \$20 a day for no-show jobs. Now, I come from Chicago, and I know a couple party bosses in Chicago that would be really envious about 200,000 getting paid \$20 a day for no-show jobs. They do not have to do anything, and they do not have to show up except for payday.

What is interesting is if we do the math, these families in Iraq are getting about \$1,000, equal to what we are asking for the children and their working parents here in America; for hardworking people who pay taxes to get as a child tax credit the same that this Iraqi citizen who has never worked, is not working, is getting, with the American taxpayers footing the bill for \$1,000 for their no-show job.

I go on to read from the article. According to one American official, an American official working for the government, working for the taxpayers of this country, for the U.S.-led administration in Iraq, he says, "This is going to continue for a good while. Nobody is going to quibble about paying a few more dinars into this economy to get things moving."

Well, this person is going to quibble. I do not know where we come off paying \$20 a day to somebody who does not

do any work, does not show up. Yet we have hardworking Americans who are trying to raise their children, who are trying to do right by their children, trying to raise them with the right values, to know the difference between right from wrong; and they are going to deserve a tax credit just like every other child in America. They are America's children, too.

Now, if we can find the good will to pay these Iraqis \$20 a day for no-show, coming to about \$1,000, which is the same amount as we are asking for a child credit for 6½ million American families, they would get \$1,000 per child, it would be the same amount as the Iraqi citizens.

If they do not have a quibble there, I do not have a quibble here. But I have a quibble if we are going to give these people \$20 a day for no-show, \$1,000 in the last 2 months, and we cannot find the wherewithal to give 6.5 million American families, 12 million American children, the same tax break other children are getting or other Iraqis are getting.

President Bush, who often says he likes to note that he is a man of his word, who says what he believes and believes what he says, and says what he does and does what he says, "My jobs and growth plan will reduce taxes for everyone," at the signing of the bill the President said, "We have taken aggressive action to strengthen the foundation of our economy so that every American who wants to work will be able to find a job."

Well, we have people who are working who deserve a tax cut. They are not getting a tax cut. We have got 9 million Americans who are unemployed, 6.1 percent. When this administration started, they had 4 percent unemployment. We have got 6.1 percent unemployment now. We have added \$3 trillion to the Nation's debt, and 3 million Americans have lost their jobs. As we say back in Chicago, what a deal.

That is what has happened here. We have added \$3 trillion to the Nation's debt and 3 million Americans are without jobs. Corporate interests and special interests are getting tax cuts, and the American people are paying with their jobs. Now we are footing the bill for \$20 a day for people who do not show up for work, and yet we are denying 12 million American children their sense of economic justice.

If we do not take care of this problem today and take up what the Senate did, 94 Senators, Democrats and Republicans, if we do not take it up, these children's children, these families, Americans, hardworking families trying to do right for their children will be denied the same tax cut that will be provided for those children of other families here in America and have been denied that same \$1,000 we are providing for the families in Iraq.

I think it is high time, after 3 million unemployed Americans, 5 million more Americans without health care since when the President took over, \$1 tril-

lion worth of corporate assets that have been closed down since this President's economic plan has been adopted, and 2 million Americans walked out of middle class to poverty, I think it is high time we take these 12 million children who are part of 6.5 million families and give those hardworking Americans a tax cut. They deserve the same chance at that dream.

We are going to build a dream for Iraq, a better future for Iraq, one with roads, one with 13 million Iraqis with health care, 4 million Iraqi children will get early childhood education. Yet we are cutting 58,000 Americans from Head Start.

If we are going to do this for Iraq, I call on the Speaker, I call on the President, and I call on the majority leader, who have denied these 12 million children the same economic equality and the same economic vision of a better future tomorrow that we have provided to these Iraqis who are getting \$20 a day from the American taxpayer for no-show jobs.

BILL DESIGNATING POST OFFICE AFTER FRANCISCO A. MARTINEZ FLORES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce a bill designating a post office after Francisco Martinez Flores, a courageous and dedicated Marine from the city of Duarte in California in my congressional district.

Lance Corporal Francisco Martinez Flores demonstrated his courage and his love of our country when he lost his life serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom just 2 weeks before gaining his U.S. citizenship. I take this opportunity not only to pay tribute to Lance Corporal Martinez Flores as a brave and self-sacrificing Marine, but also to remember him as a loving son, brother, a friend to those living in California's 32nd Congressional District.

Known affectionately by his friends and family as "Panchito", Lance Corporal Martinez grew up in the city of Duarte, having emigrated with his family at the age of 3 from Mexico. He attended Duarte High School, where he displayed both his artistic and athletic talents by participating in the high school football team and jazz band.

After graduating from high school in June of 2000, Francisco enlisted in the Marines and was assigned to the First Marine Division Marine Corps Air Ground-Combat Center at Twenty-nine Palms in California. On January 23, 2003, Lance Corporal Martinez Flores was sent abroad to fight in Operation Iraqi Freedom. While only 2 weeks shy of gaining his U.S. citizenship, he was killed in the line of duty near Nasiriyah, Iraq, on March 25, 2003.

After his death, Lance Corporal Martinez Flores was granted posthumous U.S. citizenship on April 6, 2003. He was

one of those thousands of lawful permanent residents who volunteered their service to protect the United States by joining the U.S. military.

Lance Corporal Martinez Flores was a strong, noble, valiant man who lost his life to ensure the loved ones he left behind could live in a safer and more secure world. His mother, Martha, stated, "He loved the United States so much. He was from Mexico, but he was fighting for America and its ideals."

My heart and my prayers go out to the family and friends of Lance Corporal Martinez Flores, as well as to all those who have lost their loved ones during these turbulent times. The mayor and city council of the city of Duarte have also expressed their support for naming the post office located at 1210 Highland Avenue in Duarte, California, after Francisco A. Martinez Flores.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the American ideals of hero Lance Corporal Francisco Martinez Flores, who fought for and defended the spirit that we embody here in this House.

I also want to provide attention to his family, because his family is a working-class family. They work very hard to put food on their table, and I could see where they are going to need a lot of comfort and help and support by this Federal Government. I hope, too, that by the end of the week we also can pay them with the child tax credit that they would need that they would not be eligible for at this time.

So I would ask Members to remember a soldier who gave his life, a soldier who represents a working-class family who dedicated himself to the freedoms that we have. Let us not forget our men and women who serve us and those that are giving their lives as we stand here tonight.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCDERMOTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

OFFERING SUPPORT FOR OUR MILITARY AND CALLING FOR CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF INFORMATION SUPPLIED TO CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION REGARDING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, we have had a very long journey. I think it is important today to first of all again acknowledge the brave men and women who serve us in the United States military; and to add a recommitment to those who are returning home, one, to ensure that they